



## Board meeting report from Catholic Student Trustee, Andrew D'Alessio

### Student Trustee Report - March 6, 2018

Student councils are still quite busy even though the March Break shortens the month. Many schools are starting to look to fun, interesting activities to survive the last months of cold. Two of our schools are in the midst of planning and preparing for one big event, the Bishop's Cup. As the Board knows from my last report, St Joe's and Holy Trinity will go head to head on the ice with their best hockey players vying for the Bishop's Cup trophy. This highly competitive, but very friendly competition is an event that both schools and the community look forward to every year. I am well aware that we have a few trustees around the table, Chair Lalonde and Vice-Chair Eamer, who will cheer on the teams on March 7th. It's quite an evening that attracts people from all over. This kind of event truly demonstrates the partnership between school, parents, parish, and community that we continually build. All proceeds will be going to the Good Samaritan Trust Fund.

In other news, our school mission teams recently returned from their trips to Guatemala. I know our students did many wonderful things for the communities they visited, and I think I can speak for everyone here when I say we are all proud to have such wonderful students! They are committed social change makers, reaching out into communities and making a true difference.

Our senior students have completed their applications for colleges/universities and will be moving on to their future studies in the fall. All of our grade 11 students had a Financial Literacy summit to help them prepare for financial expectations in post-secondary. They learned about scholarships, credit cards and general financial responsibilities. This summit was extremely well received by students and staff. Even some of the staff learned about how to better utilize their credit cards!

Our schools took part in the anti-bullying day February 28 and it was a tremendous success. I know that all of our schools had waves upon waves of pink filling the halls. CDSBEO was invaded by a sea of pink. It truly demonstrates how good our schools are and how much we all care about promoting a safe school environment.

I would like to wish everyone a great March Break. May God keep you safe and healthy, as many of you will travel and head for warmer climate.

### Student Trustee Report - March 20, 2018

I know that for many students the priority during the March Break was to pick up extra work hours. As you know, many of our CDSBEO students work part time as they try to complete their secondary schooling. This can often be a challenge and a real juggling act. Personally, I was able to complete 57 hours during the break. Good for the pocket book, not so good for feeling rested and rejuvenated.

Staff and students are just getting back into the school routine. Some schools have hit the post break well with schools hosting events such as: Easter activities, dances, and much more! Schools are having pep rallies to continue to keep the morale high during the last months of our cold Canadian winter.

As mentioned at our last meeting, the Bishop's Cup was on everyone's mind. Much hard work and tremendous school spirit went into preparing for this event. It was most definitely a huge success with an even larger crowd this year. The big winner was St. Joe's but the biggest winner was St. Vincent de Paul with canned goods and money being donated to help the poor. Thank you to Chair Lalonde and Vice-Chair Eamer for attending and supporting this event.

Many of our drama departments are working on the production of their annual school musical. I will share more information as we get closer to the performance dates. A lot of work goes into these productions. We are also getting very close to the OSSLT testing date. I would like to wish all our grade 10 students good luck as they continue to refine their skills during this last month. The testing date is April 10th.

All of our students are preparing their hearts for Easter. During this Lenten season, many schools had weekly prayer services, fundraisers and activities to help others in the community. The coming of Easter is a time to reflect, pray and remember our role as Catholic leaders.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holy week!